

172 West Main Street

The rather unwieldy yellow clapboard bulk of this c. 1870 house faces the north side of West Main Street about 150 feet east of that street's intersection with Union Street in Westminster. In its basics, the building is ordinary; it consists of two 3-bay by 2-bay perpendicular sections which together rest on high fieldstone foundations below unpainted tin roofs. Window placement is regular, as would, in fact, the entire building be, were it not for the raised hipped roof porch which surrounds the building to the southeast. The porch is supported by turned columns which have slender balustrades, and rows and rows of delicate spindels.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

172 West Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Peter M. Tobatsko

Telephone #: 848-2450

STREET & NUMBER

172 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21157**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 624

Folio #: 740

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The rather unwieldy yellow clauboard bulk of no. 172 West Main Street faces the north side of that street about 150' east of that street's intersection with Union Street in Westminster. The building consists of two three-bay-by-two-bay perpendicular sections which together rest on a high fieldstone foundation below unpainted tin roofs. The main entrance, the central ground story bay, is a four-panel wooden door approached by a single flight of wooden steps. It, and the double-hung sash 1/1 window above it, are flanked by a 1/1 window to the east and a 2-story, 3-sided, flat-roofed bay window to the west. Each plan of the bay window has a single 1/1 window. Halfway across the south facade, and extending across the entire east facade of this principal section, is a raised porch, covered by a hipped tin roof. The porch is supported by several turned columns which have slender turned balustrads. Brackets flank the top of each column, and help support the row of spindels which runs just under the porch's roof. The porch shelters, on the east, a 3-paned glass and half wood door, located to the south of the ground facade, and a 1/1 window. A single flight of wooden steps leads to that eastern door. The porch's two 1/1 windows are aligned with ground floor bays, and two small four-light windows light the attic, flanking the inside corbel-capped chimney which rises at the roof's peak. A curious dichotomy exists within the building--all windows to the north and east have green wooden louvered shutters, but those to the north and west do not. The two shutterless windows on the main section's west facade are 1/1 paned; attic windows and chimney placement here are identical to that on the east. The ell-making north section has three 1/1 windows to the west on the second floor, and one to the north of that facade on the ground floor; two bays of that facade are taken up by a three-sided square, hipped-roof bay window which has elongated 1/1 windows on its sides: one each to the north and south, and two to the west. The north facade of this extension has four regularly-placed (2 per floor) 6/6 windows. Probably, originally, the east facade was sheltered by a continuation, on the ground floor, of the main section's porch. This has been filled in (the roof's slope is the same as the porch's) and now three 1/1 shuttered windows are on each floor of this section. A small corbel-capped chimney rests inside this section, a few feet to the east of the gable, and a few feet back of the north wall.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main significance of no. 172 West Main Street is in the various devices it employs to counterbalance the right-angular impression Main Street, (east and west) gives in Westminster. This is a struggle many other buildings enter into, but few employ more than one weapon. However, no. 172 combines two favorite counterbalancing agents: the curved porch, and the bay (or bowed) window. But for the use of such props, Main Street in Westminster would be very canyon-like, but these devices, when combined with an occasional recessed facade, serve to create a certain relieving rhythm. Deprived of its porch and its 2-story bay window, no. 172 would be an ordinary (not to say plain) building; with these, it acquires a certain importance.

On September 29, 1860 Jacob Mering sold a 52' x 181' parcel to Malinda Koontz for \$245 (Carroll County Deed Book 273/17); this is our property. Ms. Koontz ran into legal difficulties, and Andrew J. Malehorn, a prominent local attorney, sold the place to Joseph Bollinger for \$2135 on April 3, 1876 (47/110), thus pretty well establishing a loose date for the property. Bollinger sold the house to his daughter, Harriet Bollinger, on October 19, 1874 (70/461). She died and F. M. Parke her attorney, sold to Uriah Bixler on February 4, 1916 (128/302). Bixler's executor, Edward C. Bixler, sold to George A. Early for \$5000 on the Ides of December, 1928 (153/158). Various straw deeds and other odd transactions (285/470, 285/472, 448/6) vested title in Helen E. Ruby. Mrs. Ruby sold, on January 11, 1969, to Carolyn Ruby Thacker who sold to the present owner on May 14, 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being all of lot no. 7 of Isaac Shriver's Addition to the
City of Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

April
DATE

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

51°



F-7

51/10

CARR 459
172 W. MAW ST.
WEITHWATER
SU PACADZ
C.UGER 4/77



CARR 459
172 W. MAWITT.
WESTMINSTER
N. PACADL
C. LISK 4/77



CARR 459
172 W. MAW ST.
WESTMINSTER
SE FACADE
C. W 828 4/77